For Immediate Release

December 29, 2009



OFFICE OF INTERIM MAYOR JOE FORD

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Mayor Ford Kicks Off the New Year with a Coffee and Conversation Tour

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – If you have ever wanted to have a one-on-one conversation with the Mayor of Shelby County, well here's your chance. Interim Shelby County Mayor Joe Ford is kicking off the New Year with a *Coffee and Conversation Tour* across the county. Starting Tuesday, Jan. 5, Mayor Ford will be sharing his morning cup of java with citizens at various breakfast spots in Memphis and Shelby County.

"There are people through out this community who may never have the opportunity to visit the mayor's office in the County Building, but the mayor can come to them," said Ford. This is not a formal gathering, it's just an opportunity to say hello and hear first-hand comments from residents I've been appointed to serve."

The casual morning gatherings serve to strengthen Mayor Ford's commitment to an open and accessible government.

"It is my goal to carry out the mission of the people who live in this county, not Joe Ford's agenda, but the agenda of the taxpaying citizens of this community," added Mayor Ford. "This is just one of the ways we will gather opinions and address issues important to residents."

The tour will stop every Tuesday and Friday (including some Saturdays) beginning at 7:30 a.m. If you have a *Coffee and Conversation Tour* stop suggestion, please contact 545-4588.

Tuesday, Jan. 5	West Street Diner	2076 West Street, Germantown
Friday, Jan. 8	Collierville Coffee Club	Super D Drug Store, 700 W. Poplar, Collierville
Saturday, Jan. 9	Old Timers	7918 C Street, Millington
Tuesday, Jan. 12	Three Little Pigs	5145 Quince, Memphis
Friday, Jan. 15	IHOP Restaurant	3710 Riverdale, Memphis
Tuesday, Jan. 19	The Bagel Company	6698 Poplar, Germantown
Friday, Jan. 22	Shoney's Restaurant	3081 Covington Pike, Memphis
Tuesday, Jan. 26	Cupboard Restaurant	1400 Union, Memphis
Friday, Jan. 29	Perkins	8472 U.S. Hwy 51, Millington

For more information, call 545-4500